

#### UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

### 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Nicholas Fonseca Tribal Chairman Shingle Springs Rancheria Post Office Box 1340 Shingle Springs, California 95682

U.S. EPA Indian Environmental General Assistance Program RE:

GA-00T99501-3

JUN 1 2 2015 Application Due:

#### Dear Chairman Fonseca:

I am pleased to inform you that your proposal submitted to this office under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Indian Environmental General Assistance Program (GAP) has been tentatively approved for funding. At this time, I am setting aside \$102,150. An additional \$1,325 has been tentatively set aside for supplemental activities as follows: \$1,350 for one Juno GPS unit. The total tentative award for your GAP is \$103,475.

Also, in a separate budget and work plan, please include \$300 for table top composters, \$10,214 for indirect cost rate, and \$7,173 for increases to staff salaries, as supplemental funding for your program. If additional GAP funds become available and your requests are approved, some or all of your supplemental requests may be awarded.

Your previous GAP grant GA-00T99501-1 expired on September 30, 2014. However, the tribe has not yet submitted an interim Federal Financial Report (FFR) as required. The terms and conditions of the grant require the tribe submit a final FFR and performance report no later than 90 days after the expiration of the grant, or December 30, 2014. A final FFR is needed to close the expired grant. If EPA does not receive a final FFR within fourteen days, your new grant award may be delayed, reduced, or denied.

Work plan submission, negotiation, and approval will be conducted electronically in GAP Online. The comments attached here for your reference are also available in GAP Online. If we receive your complete application and an approvable revised work plan by the due date we will make every effort to award the grant by September 30, 2015. This funding will support work plan activities from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016. Please do not incur any costs under this work plan until the official grant award document has been signed and dated by the EPA Award Official. Any costs incurred before the date of award will not be reimbursed.

This letter does not constitute a grant award. In order to receive funding, the Shingle Springs Rancheria will need to complete an Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424). The complete application, including an approvable work plan, must be submitted for EPA review by the due date indicated above. Materials can be submitted earlier and will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Please note that in completing your application, you will need to enter the GAP Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (CFDA), required in box #11 on the SF-424A application form, 66.926.

DED LEGIS DATE AND PROBLEMS OF THE LEGISLAND CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR OF THE LEGISLAND CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR

New Process for Submitting Your GAP Grant Application

Effective February 17, 2015, EPA grant applicants **must** use Grants.gov to submit their applications. The Grants.gov registration process can take up to 30 days to complete. Therefore, it is highly recommended that EPA applicants complete their registration on Grants.gov now. Also, your organization's registration in SAM.gov must be active to utilize Grants.gov. If it appears that the grants.gov registration process may prevent you from submitting your application by the due date aforementioned, then please contact <a href="mailto:Support@grants.gov">Support@grants.gov</a> or call 1-800-518-4726 as support is available 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. You should also notify your Project Officer before the application due date to request an extension.

Please review both Attachment 2 (Grants.gov Instructions Guide) and Attachment 3 (Region 9 Guidance Information for Applicants) or go to <a href="http://www.epa.gov/region9/funding/information.html">http://www.epa.gov/region9/funding/information.html</a> to find additional resources on Grants.gov, Federal Regulations, and new EPA requirements. We suggest you forward these materials to your Project Manager, Financial Officer and any other personnel in your organization requiring this information.

I look forward to working with you and your staff under the General Assistance Program. Questions regarding the completion of the application forms as well as the mandatory use of grants.gov should be referred to Maria Roverso, Grants Management Specialist, at (415) 972-3573. You can also contact your GAP Project Officer, Gilbert Pasqua at (415) 972-3788 if you have questions regarding this letter, the work plan or the General Assistance Program.

Sincerely,

Laura M. Ebbert

Manager

**Tribal Section** 

#### **Enclosures**

- 1. Work Plan Comments
- 2. Grants.gov Instructions Guide
- 3. Region 9 Guidance Information for Applicants

cc: Darrin Ruddy, Environmental Director (with work plan comments)
Ernest Vargas, Tribal Administrator

## GAP 2015-2016 Work Plan Comments Shingle Springs Rancheria

Thank you for developing an outcome-oriented work plan. The following observations and requests were written with the intent of strengthening the Tribe's GAP work plan, identifying possible assistance, and ensuring the work plan meets GAP guidelines. These comments pertain to the 2015-2016 work plan that was submitted with your GAP proposal in GAP Online in December 2014. Please ensure that these comments are addressed in your final GAP work plan in GAP Online.

#### **General Definitions and References**

1. The following references are useful for understanding GAP in general, for getting an understanding for environmental outcomes, etc.

2013 Guidance on the Award and Management of General Assistance Program Agreements and Appendix I, Guidebook for Building Tribal Environmental Program Capacity <a href="http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/pdfs/tribal-gap14/fy2014-r9-gap-guidance.pdf">http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/pdfs/tribal-gap14/fy2014-r9-gap-guidance.pdf</a> GAP Act (<a href="http://www.epa.gov/Indian/pdfs/4368b.pdf">http://www.epa.gov/Indian/pdfs/4368b.pdf</a>) 2015 GAP Grant Notification (<a href="http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/tribal-gap.html">http://www.epa.gov/Indian/pdfs/4368b.pdf</a>) EPA Strategic Plan (<a href="http://www2.epa.gov/planandbudget/strategicplan">http://www2.epa.gov/planandbudget/strategicplan</a>)

- 2. Environmental outcomes should be expressed in terms of improvements to public health, the environment, or human behavior. They can also reflect improved tribal capacity to protect public health or the environment. Intermediate outcomes could reflect: a) improved human health or environmental conditions, b) reduced risks to human health or the environment, c) increased tribal capabilities in legal, enforcement, technical, communication, or administrative areas. Long-term outcomes could include attainment of desired environmental conditions (e.g., water quality standards are met) or human health goals, attainment of a desired capacity to plan, develop, implement, manage and sustain tribal environmental programs.
- 3. Please ensure that the total work plan Estimated Component Costs add up to the total approved budget amount indicated in the cover letter, and that the total work plan Estimated Work Years adds up to the total number of approved personnel funded under GAP. I have attached a document entitled "Component Cost and Work Years Guidance" that will help you to correctly identify Component Costs and Work Years to comply with this request.
- 4. Greening Grants Policy: EPA Region 9 has adopted a Greening Grants Policy which encourages grantees to carry out their EPA grant funded projects in a greener way. Your Project Officer will work with you to determine whether it is feasible to incorporate green practices into your work plan. The Greening Grants Policy includes an attachment which describes many useful green practices. The policy furthers the objectives of EPA's 2011-15 Strategic Plan. The link to Greening Grant Policy is on the Region 9 Website Homepage, <a href="http://www.epa.gov/region9/funding/greening-grants.html">http://www.epa.gov/region9/funding/greening-grants.html</a>

#### 5. Regarding Indirect Costs:

For Tribes with Provisional/final IDC rates:

Absent of an approved Provisional/final rate, Tribes may use a current provisional/final IDC rate
for an existing grant with the Department of Interior (DOI). The tribe must provide a copy of the
grant agreement with DOI showing the rate that covers the same project periods as the EPA
grant.

Please refer to CFR 2, Part 200, Section 200.414 for more information regarding indirect cost rates. This is a change from FY 13 and FY 14 IDC negotiations. Please work with your project officer when budgeting for a 10% IDC.

\*MTDC is the total budget minus equipment and contractual costs.

#### **BUDGET COMMENTS**

The GAP core budget for FY2016 is \$103,475.

Please adjust the following: Supplies will have to be adjusted to \$1,350.

#### WORK PLAN COMMENTS

Please ensure that each component in your work plan contains one or more capacity indicators that appropriately links to the commitments. Capacity indicators represent the destination of the Tribe's work and therefore the Tribe should express how it will accomplish the tasks necessary to achieve the indicators proposed in its commitments. Moreover, capacity indicators should ideally be placed in the "Measures" section for each component in the work plan. More information on the appropriate use of indicators is found on page 13 of the GAP Guidance. A suite of indicators that the Tribe may consider for inclusion in its work plan is contained in Appendix I of the GAP Guidebook.

## **Component 1: Management of Environmental Office**

#### **Commitments 1.1:**

This commitment looks fine.

#### **Commitments 1.2:**

In the outputs and deliverables section, please include how many deliverables (such as newsletters), will be submitted to EPA.

#### **Commitments 1.3:**

This commitment should be deleted from the work plan the tribe has requested IDC and the Finance Department is not in their direct budget. There should be no cost associated with this commitment.

### **Component 2: Pollution Prevention (Recycling)**

#### Commitment 2.1:

The information in the description section should be added to the environmental inventory, and reflected in the tribal environmental plan. The suggested indicator for this commitment is B5.1.

#### Commitment 2.2:

Our records show that the Tribe has an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (ISWMP) from 2010. To ensure the greatest opportunity for success of your solid waste management program, it is recommended this ISWMP be updated to reflect the current solid waste management operations and needs of the Tribe. The agency recommends that the plan be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure consistency with the Tribe's priorities, and should be reauthorized every five years. Having an updated and relevant ISWMP is critical for maintaining a sustainable waste management program, and for identifying and organizing current waste management priorities for the Tribe. Prior to undertaking or concurrent with solid waste activities proposed in this work plan, the ISWMP should be updated and approved in this fiscal year. The Region 9 Tribal Solid Waste Team is available to provide technical assistance and a comprehensive review of the ISWMP.

In the description section, please add an indicator for the ISWMP, since the information will be integrated into that document. Also remove the word "survey" from the description section.

In the outputs and deliverables section, please include refined ISWMP as a deliverable. Also describe how many meetings will take place.

#### Commitment 2.3:

In the description section, please include more detail on the steps the tribal environmental program will take to complete this commitment

#### Commitment 2.4:

In the description section, please include more description on the steps the tribal environmental program will take to develop an air quality program for tribal elders.

## **Component 3: Travel and Training**

#### **Commitments 3.1:**

This commitment looks fine.

### **Component 4: Community Outreach**

#### **Commitment 4.1:**

In the description section, please include the number of tire disposal reminders that will be included in the newsletters.

#### Commitment 4.2:

This commitment looks fine.

#### Commitment 4.3:

In the description section, please include what capacity acquiring the GPS unit will develop for the tribal environmental program.

#### Commitments 4.4-4.6:

These commitments look fine.

## **Component 5: Management of Environmental Office:**

#### Commitment 5.1:

This commitment looks fine.

#### Commitment 5.2:

Joint Evaluation: Portions of a Joint Evaluation process are missing. Please see Attachment F from the notification to ensure that the work plan contains a process in which EPA and the Tribe together evaluate the successes of the Tribe under GAP. The attachment can be found at: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/region9/funding/pdfs/tribal-gap/fy2015-r9-gap-notification-attach-d-workplan-quarterly-report.pdf">http://www.epa.gov/region9/funding/pdfs/tribal-gap/fy2015-r9-gap-notification-attach-d-workplan-quarterly-report.pdf</a>

#### Also add a commitment for ETEP development:

Enclosed is the ETEP work plan component template. If you have developed a recent environmental inventory, please inform your Project Officer and delete that commitment from the component. If you have questions about the other commitments, please contact your Project Officer.

The ETEP requirements are outlined in the National GAP Guidance on pages 13-19. Below is information about the Tribal Environmental Plan that will be part of the ETEP.

The proposed FY2016 work plan includes a component to develop an ETEP. The Guidance on the Award and Management of General Assistance Agreements for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia was finalized in May 2013. This document also contains the Guidebook for Building Tribal Environmental Program Capacity (Appendix I). Attached is an example work plan component for the development of an ETEP. Please ensure that your ETEP component minimally includes the information contained in this sample work plan component. For additional assistance, please contact your Project Officer.

#### **Tribal Environmental Plan**

The GAP Guidance states the following about the content of the TEP:

Tribal governments should include environmental program priorities for their community in this section of the ETEP. For each priority, the following detail should be included: (1) short description of the priority; (2) the tribe's long-term environmental program development goals that help to address or support the priority; (3) intermediate program development milestones the tribal government would like to meet during the time period of the ETEP; (4) the tribe's plans to manage authorized environmental programs; and (5) any type of assistance (training, technical assistance, EPA direct implementation actions, financial, etc.) that may be needed. This information should be discussed between the tribe and EPA regional office staff to identify any connections between the tribe's priorities and the implementation of the federal environmental programs, and to identify potential EPA assistance that could be provided to help the tribe accomplish the proposed actions.

EPA recognizes that the Tribal Environmental Plan is a tribal document that represents the issues of importance to the Tribe; the TEP can cover a range of issues including environmental impacts that may occur off the reservation, but impact the tribe or Tribal interests.

The TEP will help guide EPA and Tribal work in the future. As the GAP Guidance states, future approvable GAP work plans will be based on the contents of the TEP. Please include an appendix section where the tribal priorities each have a program indicator from the GAP Guidance and Guidebook.

## **EPA Region 9 - Grants.gov Instructions Guide**

( March 2015 )

Applications for Federal assistance must be submitted through Grants.gov.

**Register with Grants.gov!** In order to submit your application using Grants.gov, your organization must be registered with Grants.gov. Please allow four weeks to complete the registration process. Also, please note that you must have a DUNS number and an active SAM.gov registration before registering with Grants.gov. You can find more information about registering at:

http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration.html

To Access and Download Grant Application Package go to: <a href="http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/download-application-package.html">http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/download-application-package.html</a>

- 1. Funding Opportunity Number (FON).
  - A. <u>Competitive Programs</u>: Refer to the competitive solicitation for the applicable FON. Applicant will enter this into the "Funding Opportunity Number" field to locate the application package.
  - B. <u>Non-Competitive Discretionary Programs</u>: Obtain FON from your EPA Point of Contact (POC). Applicant will enter this into the "Funding Opportunity Number" field to locate the application package.
  - C. Continuing Environmental Programs (CEPs): The list of available CFDA numbers for CEPs have been divided between two FONs. The two FONs used to access the application packages are EPA-CEP-01 and EPA-CEP-02. Refer to the following Attachment to determine which FON your CFDA is published under. Applicant will enter this into the "Funding Opportunity Number" field to locate the packages.

CFDA Number:	(#
Funding Opportunity Number:	C (C)
Funding Opportunity Competition ID:	(c
	Download Package

- 2. Download the package associated with CFDA 66.XXX.
- 3. Complete the Grant Application Package. Attach the forms and information required by your particular program. Contact your EPA POC if you have questions about which forms and materials you must submit for your program.
- 4. Submit your application. Go to <a href="http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants.html">http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants.html</a> for more information on this process.
- 5. Confirm with your EPA POC that EPA has received your application package. If for ANY reason you cannot submit your application by the deadline specified, contact your EPA POC immediately.

For FAQs, User Guides, Checklists, Training and Technical Support, visit the Grants.gov Applicant Resource page at <a href="http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicants/applicants/applicants-resources.html">http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/app

Technical Questions or Issues? Please call (1-800-518-4726) or email (<a href="mailto:support@grants.gov">support@grants.gov</a>) the Grants.gov Contact Center (<a href="mailto:http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/about/contact-us.html">http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/about/contact-us.html</a>). Help is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

## **Grants.gov Instructions Guide**

Continuing Environmental Programs (CEPs)
(EPA Mandatory Grant Programs)

## **ATTACHMENT**

## CFDAs Under EPA-CEP-01

rogram Support cants Lesearch, Investigations, Demonstrations, and Special Purpose Activities Relating to the Clean Air Act ons, and Special Purpose Activities of Federally-Recognized Indian Tribes Consistent With the Clean Air Act (CAA), and the Protection and Management of Air Qualify Grant Program ins Recovery Act funding. ed Monitoring of Ecosystems (TIME) and Long-Term Monitoring (LTM) Program ection and Restoration: Tribal Implementation Assistance Program lanning Protection and Restoration Act Basin Restoration Program (PRP) indated Projects for Wastewater Treatment Works ins Recovery Act funding. Itrol State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
Lesearch, Investigations, Demonstrations, and Special Purpose Activities Relating to the Clean Air Act cons, and Special Purpose Activities of Federally-Recognized Indian Tribes Consistent With the Clean Air Act (CAA), and the Protection and Management of Air Quality  Grant Program ins Recovery Act funding.  ed Monitoring of Ecosystems (TIME) and Long-Term Monitoring (LTM) Program ection and Restoration: Tribal Implementation Assistance Program Idanning Protection and Restoration Act Basin Restoration Program (PRP) indated Projects  for Wastewater Treatment Works ins Recovery Act funding.  Introl State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
ons, and Special Purpose Activities of Federally-Recognized Indian Tribes Consistent With the Clean Air Act (CAA), and the Protection and Management of Air Quality Grant Program ins Recovery Act funding. ed Monitoring of Ecosystems (TIME) and Long-Term Monitoring (LTM) Program ection and Restoration: Tribal Implementation Assistance Program lanning Protection and Restoration Act Basin Restoration Program (PRP) indated Projects for Wastewater Treatment Works ins Recovery Act funding. itrol State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
and the Protection and Management of Air Qualify Grant Program ins Recovery Act funding. ed Monitoring of Ecosystems (TIME) and Long-Term Monitoring (LTM) Program ection and Restoration: Tribal Implementation Assistance Program lanning Protection and Restoration Act Basin Restoration Program (PRP) indated Projects for Wastewater Treatment Works ins Recovery Act funding. itrol State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
Grant Program ins Recovery Act funding. ed Monitoring of Ecosystems (TIME) and Long-Term Monitoring (LTM) Program ection and Restoration: Tribal Implementation Assistance Program danning Protection and Restoration Act Basin Restoration Program (PRP) indated Projects for Wastewater Treatment Works ins Recovery Act funding. itrol State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
ins Recovery Act funding. ed Monitoring of Ecosystems (TIME) and Long-Term Monitoring (LTM) Program ection and Restoration: Tribal Implementation Assistance Program lanning Protection and Restoration Act Basin Restoration Program (PRP) indated Projects for Wastewater Treatment Works ins Recovery Act funding. itrol State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
ed Monitoring of Ecosystems (TIME) and Long-Term Monitoring (LTM) Program ection and Restoration: Tribal Implementation Assistance Program lanning Protection and Restoration Act Basin Restoration Program (PRP) modated Projects for Wastewater Treatment Works ins Recovery Act funding. itrol State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
ection and Restoration: Tribal Implementation Assistance Program lanning Protection and Restoration Act Basin Restoration Program (PRP) industed Projects for Wastewater Treatment Works ins Recovery Act funding. itrol State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
lanning Protection and Restoration Act Basin Restoration Program (PRP) ndated Projects for Wastewater Treatment Works ins Recovery Act funding. itrol State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
Basin Restoration Program (PRP) Indated Projects For Wastewater Treatment Works Instruction Recovery Act funding. Introl State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
indated Projects of or Wastewater Treatment Works ins Recovery Act funding. Itrol State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
ofor Wastewater Treatment Works ins Recovery Act funding. itrol State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
ins Recovery Act funding. Itrol State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
ntrol State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
trol State, Interstate, and Tribal Program Support	
System Supervision	
Water Source Protection	
Program `	
gement Planning	
ns Recovery Act funding.	
ogram	
s for Clean Water State Revolving Funds	
ns Recovery Act funding.	
plementation Grants	
ogram	
s for Drinking Water State Revolving Funds	
ins Recovery Act funding.	
m	
nd Notification Program Implementation Grants	
on Tribal Cooperative Agreements	
sin Program	
opnations Act (DRAA) Hurricane Sandy Capitalization Grants For Clean Water State Revolving Funds	
Disaster Relief Appropriations Act (DRAA) Hurricane Sandy Capitalization Grants for Drinking Water State Revolving Funds	
Opriations Act (DRAA) Hurricane Sandy Capitalization Grants for Drinking Water State Revolving Funds	
opriations Act (DRAA) Hurricane Sandy Capitalization Grants for Drinking Water State Revolving Funds al Employment Program	
al Employment Program	
al Employment Program ins Recovery Act funding.	
al Employment Program ins Recovery Act funding. esearch Efforts (RARE)	
al Employment Program ns Recovery Act funding.	
7	

## CFDAs Under EPA-CEP-02

56.700	Consolidated Pesticide Enforcement Cooperative Agreements
66.701	Toxic Substances Compliance Monitoring Cooperative Agreements
66.707	TSCA Title IV State Lead Grants Certification of Lead-Based Paint Professionals
56,714	Regional Agricultural IPM Grants
108.00	Hazardous Waste Management State Program Support
66.802	Superfund State, Political Subdivision, and inclan Tribe Site-Specific Cooperative Agreements This program contains Recovery Act funding.
66.804	Underground Storage Tank Prevention, Detection and Compliance Program
66,835	Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Corrective Action Program This program contains Recovery Act funding.
56.838	Solid Waste Management Assistance Grants
66.800	Superfund State and Indian Tribe Core Program Cooperative Agreements
60,817	State and Tribal Response Program Grants
66.819	Disaster Relief Appropriations Act (DRAA) Hurricane Sandy Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Corrective Action Program
66.926	Indian Environmental General Assistance Program (GAP)
56.931	International Financial Assistance Projects Sponsored by the Office of International and Tribal Affairs

#### **ATTACHMENT**

# Region 9 Guidance Information for Applicants <a href="http://www.epa.gov/region9/funding/information.html">http://www.epa.gov/region9/funding/information.html</a>

## Omni-Circular under 2 CFR 200 & EPA Regulations under 2 CFR 1500:

EPA has officially adopted the OMB Omni-Circular effective December 26, 2014. Specifically, in a joint interim final rule published in the Federal Register on December 19, 2014 (see 79 Fed. Reg. 76050-76063), EPA adopted the Omni-Circular. This includes adoption of Omni-Circular requirements located at 2 CFR 200 along with EPA-specific provisions mandated by statute, regulation or agency policy now codified under 2 CFR 1500. OMB's website at <a href="https://cfo.gov/cofar/">https://cfo.gov/cofar/</a> is the location for resources regarding the Omni-Circular, including OMB's Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ).

Federal Register:

http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-12-19/pdf/2014-28697.pdf

2 CFR 200:

http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=4467ef7edf6418328185fefd45270f1f&node=pt2.1.200&rgn=div5 2 CFR 1500:

http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=ac772c78043ca73b46f5d168dd3f038f&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2chapterXV.tpl OMB's FAQ:

https://cfo.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/2014-11-26-Frequently-Asked-Questions.pdf

## Interim Financial Assistance Conflict of Interest Policy:

In accordance with the Omni-Circular's Conflict of Interest disclosure requirements under <u>2 CFR 200.112</u>, EPA issued the <u>Interim Financial Assistance Conflict of Interest Policy</u>.

Requirements include applicants providing a prominently titled conflict of interest disclosure statement attached to the SF 424, if applicable. This policy applies to all individuals and non-federal entities requesting and receiving EPA financial assistance on or after <u>December 26, 2014</u>. (Note: A standard EPA form is not currently available for the COI disclosure requirement since this is an interim policy.)

Interim Policy:

http://www.epa.gov/oqd/epa\_interim\_financial\_assistance\_coi\_policy.htm

## Submission of Grant Applications via Grants.gov:

Effective February 17, 2015, EPA grant applicants must use <u>Grants.gov</u> to submit their applications. It is highly recommended that EPA applicants complete their registration on Grants.gov now, since the entire process can take up to 30 days to complete. Information located at <u>Submitting an Application to Grants.gov Apply</u> and <u>Applicant Resources</u> for Grants.gov will help you get started. Applicants are also encouraged to view a previously recorded <u>EPA</u> <u>Information Webinar</u> session/ presentation regarding Grants.gov or register for an available session.

Grants.gov support/assistance is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week at 1-800-518-4726 or Support@grants.gov. For International callers, call (606) 545-5035 to speak with a Grants.gov Contact Center representative. Also, the Region 9 Application Checklist will help ensure your EPA application submitted through Grants.gov is complete.

Guide on Submitting an Application to Grants.gov: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/ogd/quide/submitting.htm">http://www.epa.gov/ogd/quide/submitting.htm</a>

Grants.gov Application Resources:
http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-resources.html
EPA Information Sessions/Webinars:
http://www.epa.gov/ogd/training/grants gov information sessions for applicants.htm
Region 9 Application Checklist:
http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/pdfs/grantsgov/r9-application-checklist-grantsgov.pdf

## • Bundling of Grant Application Certifications (for States & Tribes):

State and Tribal applicants are highly encouraged to submit <u>annually</u> a single set ("bundling") of application certification forms with a cover letter. The letter must indicate the applicable timeframe (usually a federal or state fiscal year) of the certifications for all EPA grant applications received by Region 9 Grants Management Office (GMO) within that period. GMO accepts Adobe format (.pdf) of the letter with applicable signed certification(s) through the electronic mail box: <a href="mailto:grantsregion9@epa.gov">grantsregion9@epa.gov</a>. Please note that updated forms must be submitted when changes to the responses are required. The following certifications can be bundled:

Standard Form (SF) 424B, Assurances for Non-Construction Programs

EPA Form 6600-06, Certification Regarding Lobbying, Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans and Cooperative Agreements

EPA Form 4700-4, Preaward Compliance Review Report for All Applicants Requesting EPA Financial Assistance

Applicants are highly encouraged to use bundling of their certifications if multiple EPA applications are submitted annually. Bundling can be especially helpful as EPA is transitioning to Grants.gov. Please contact your EPA Grants Specialist for questions regarding bundling.

EPA Application Forms: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/ogd/forms/forms.htm">http://www.epa.gov/ogd/forms/forms.htm</a>

## Changes to the Minority & Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE) Utilization Reporting Requirement:

The EPA issued a revised class deviation from <u>40 CFR 33.502</u> on <u>December 4, 2014</u>, which supersedes the M/WBE reporting requirement specified in the recipient's Notice of Award. The EPA financial assistance recipients are now required to report <u>annually</u> when certain conditions are met to reach a threshold of \$150,000. Please review the current information from <u>EPA's Small Business Programs</u>.

40 CFR 33: <a href="http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=04eada1fb1292e21ecf2434ad7bf3781&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title40/40cfr33 main 02.tpl">http://www.epa.gov/osbp/dbe reporting.htm</a>

## Grants Management Training Materials for Tribal Organizations:

The EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment (OGD) worked with the national Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (NPETE) to develop <u>training materials for Tribal organizations</u>. While OGD is no longer able to offer in-person trainings, the training materials, including the training manuals and webinar recordings, are available for download.

Recipient Training: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/ogd/training/recip">http://www.epa.gov/ogd/training/recip</a> train.htm